

**LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES**  
**APRIL 2006 Preliminary Unemployment Rates**



AREA	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYED	UNEMPLOYED	4/06	3/06	4/05
U.S.	150,209,000	143,405,000	6,804,000	4.5%	5.1%	4.7%
INDIANA	3,242,400	3,086,200	156,200	4.8%	5.4%	4.9%
<b>Economic Growth Region 4*</b>	<b>245,086</b>	<b>233,204</b>	<b>11,882</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
Lafayette MSA**	96,800	92,930	3,870	4.0%	4.6%	4.5%
Kokomo MSA***	47,290	44,220	3,070	6.5%	7.0%	6.0%
Benton County	4,820	4,600	220	4.5%	5.4%	4.6%
Carroll County	10,890	10,370	520	4.8%	5.7%	4.9%
Cass County	19,540	18,510	1,030	5.3%	6.0%	5.5%
Clinton County	17,130	16,270	860	5.0%	5.8%	5.5%
Fountain County	9,135	8,695	440	4.8%	5.4%	5.2%
Howard County	39,120	36,500	2,620	6.7%	7.2%	6.1%
Miami County	17,780	16,790	990	5.6%	6.3%	6.0%
Montgomery County	20,060	19,260	800	4.0%	4.5%	4.5%
Tippecanoe County	81,090	77,960	3,130	3.9%	4.4%	4.4%
Tipton County	8,170	7,725	445	5.5%	6.0%	5.5%
Warren County	4,980	4,805	175	3.5%	4.4%	4.1%
White County						
Attica City	1,755	1,690	65	3.8%	4.3%	5.3%
Crawfordsville City	7,735	7,320	415	5.4%	5.9%	5.9%
Delphi City	1,485	1,405	80	5.4%	6.1%	6.5%
Fowler City	1,170	1,115	55	4.5%	5.5%	4.3%
Frankfort City	7,460	6,990	470	6.3%	7.2%	7.1%
Kokomo City	21,270	19,560	1,710	8.0%	8.6%	7.1%
Lafayette City	33,570	32,110	1,460	4.4%	4.9%	4.9%
Logansport City	8,880	8,355	525	5.9%	6.6%	6.6%
Monticello City	2,680	2,510	170	6.4%	8.0%	7.8%
Peru City	6,235	5,815	420	6.7%	7.2%	8.2%
Tipton City	2,600	2,445	155	6.0%	7.0%	6.3%
Williamsport City	1,070	1,025	45	4.1%	4.9%	4.3%

**REGIONAL, STATE, & METROPOLITAN UNEMPLOYMENT**

Regional and state unemployment rates were little changed in April. Overall, 32 states and the District of Columbia registered over-the-month unemployment rate increases, 8 states recorded decreases, and 10 states had no change, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

State Unemployment (Seasonally Adjusted) Mississippi--where unemployment remains elevated following Hurricane Katrina--posted the highest unemployment rate in April, 7.7 percent. Hawaii reported the lowest unemployment rate, 2.8 percent in April.

Overall, 20 states had unemployment rates that were significantly below the U.S. rate, 6 states reported measurably higher rates, and 24 states and the District of Columbia had rates that were statistically little different from that of the nation.

Unemployment rates were lower in April than a year earlier in 277 of the 367 metropolitan areas, higher in 68 areas, and unchanged in 22 areas, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. Forty-three metropolitan areas, including 29 in the South, registered jobless rates below 3.0 percent.

Three Florida areas posted the lowest unemployment rates in April: Fort Walton Beach-Crestview-Destin and Naples-Marco Island, 2.0 percent each, and Cape Coral-Fort Myers, 2.1 percent.

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE RANKING by COUNTY**  
(High to Low)

APR 2006 RANK	COUNTY	APR 2006 RATE
7	Howard	6.7%
23	Miami	5.6%
26	Tipton	5.5%
30	Cass	5.3%
34	White	5.2%
37	Clinton	5.0%
48	Carroll	4.8%
50	Fountain	4.8%
58	Benton	4.5%
77	Montgomery	4.0%
82	Tippecanoe	3.9%
89	Warren	3.5%

\*EGR 4 includes Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fountain, Howard, Miami, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Warren and White counties

\*\*Lafayette MSA includes Benton, Carroll and Tippecanoe counties

\*\*\*Kokomo MSA includes Howard and Tipton counties

Surrounding States	Unemployment Rates
<b>April 2006</b>	(Non-seasonably adjusted)
Illinois	5.0%
Kentucky	5.9%
Michigan	6.8%
Ohio	5.4%

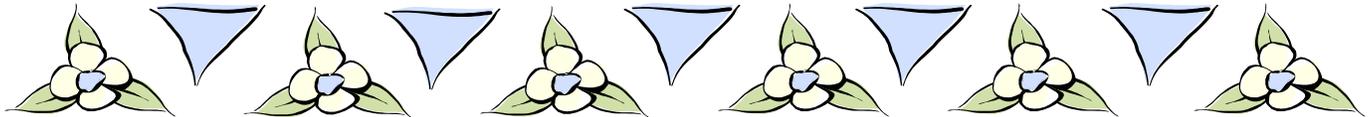
# LAFAYETTE MSA

(Benton, Carroll, and Tippecanoe Counties)

## WAGE AND SALARIED EMPLOYMENT

	April 2006	March 2006	April 2005	CHANGE FROM			
				Mar 2006 TO Apr 2006		Apr 2005 TO Apr 2006	
Total Nonfarm	94,500	93,800	93,500	+700	+0.7%	+1,000	+1.1%
Total Private	66,400	65,600	65,500	+800	+1.2%	+900	+1.4%
Goods Producing	20,800	20,600	20,800	+200	+1.0%	+0	+0.0%
Service-Providing	73,700	73,200	72,700	+500	+0.7%	+1,000	+1.4%
Private Srvc Provide	45,600	45,000	44,700	+600	+1.3%	+900	+2.0%
Nat. Res & Construct	3,600	3,400	3,700	+200	+5.9%	-100	-2.7%
Manufacturing	17,200	17,200	17,100	+0	+0.0%	+100	+0.6%
Durable Goods	13,000	13,000	12,800	+0	+0.0%	+200	+1.6%
Non-Durable Goods	4,200	4,200	4,300	+0	+0.0%	-100	-2.3%
Trade, Transportation,	14,300	14,100	13,900	+200	+1.4%	+400	+2.9%
Wholesale Trade	2,000	1,900	1,900	+100	+5.3%	+100	+5.3%
Retail Trade	10,200	10,100	10,000	+100	+1.0%	+200	+2.0%
Trans, Warehouse, Util	2,100	2,100	2,000	+0	+0.0%	+100	+5.0%
Information	1,000	1,000	1,100	+0	+0.0%	-100	-9.1%
Financial Activities	3,700	3,700	3,800	+0	+0.0%	-100	-2.6%
Professional and Bus	5,300	5,200	5,300	+100	+1.9%	+0	+0.0%
Educational and Health	9,500	9,400	9,200	+100	+1.1%	+300	+3.3%
Leisure and Hospitality	8,900	8,700	8,500	+200	+2.3%	+400	+4.7%
Accommodation and Food	7,900	7,800	7,900	+100	+1.3%	+0	+0.0%
Other Services	2,900	2,900	2,900	+0	+0.0%	+0	+0.0%
Government	28,100	28,200	28,000	-100	-0.4%	+100	+0.4%
Federal Government	700	700	700	+0	+0.0%	+0	+0.0%
State Government	20,900	20,900	20,600	+0	+0.0%	+300	+1.5%
Local Government	6,500	6,600	6,700	-100	-1.5%	-200	-3.0%
Local Govt Education	4,000	4,100	4,200	-100	-2.4%	-200	-4.8%

NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING EMPLOYMENT SHOWN ONLY IN TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL, PRIVATE & GOODS PRODUCING.  
CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYMENT SHOWN ONLY IN TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL, PRIVATE & GOODS PRODUCING.



## MONTHLY COMPARISON OF UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS BY OFFICE TOTAL ALL CLAIMS FILED



LOCAL OFFICE	April 2006	March 2006	Previous Month % Change	April 2005	Year Ago % Change
Kokomo	11,289	11,388	-0.9%	8,234	37.1%
Lafayette	9,791	12,026	-18.6%	9,673	1.2%
INDIANA	253,681	292,533	-13.3%	241,145	5.2%

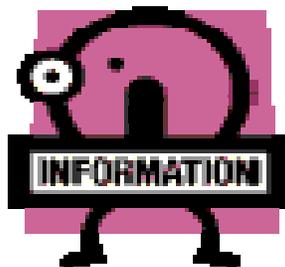
## Bureau of Labor Statistics Reports...

Workers remaining in the workforce longer may help address challenges of an aging population such as enhanced retirement security and quality of life, contends Barbara Bovbjerg, director for education, workforce, and income security at the Government Accountability Office. "This is not the whole answer but it will help," she told a MetLife and International Longevity Center conference on the impact of longevity in the workplace. Challenges to financial security in retirement include: Longer life spans, with increased years in retirement; the shifting of pension plans and financial and longevity risks to individuals; and rising health care costs, according to Bovbjerg. MetLife released a study at the conference entitled "Living Longer, Working Longer: The Changing Landscape of the Aging Workforce" that examines the actual work experience of employees ages 55 to 70. It found: 78 percent of respondents ages 33 to 59; 60 percent of those ages 60 to 65; and 37 percent of those ages 66 to 70 are working or looking for work (Daily Labor Report, page A-5).

"As with all homeless people, finding food, warmth and a place to clean up is a constant struggle. But for those who live in their cars, remaining inconspicuous is its own challenge, and though living this way is illegal in most places, experts and advocates believe it is a growing trend," writes Ian Urbina in The New York Times, April 2, page 1. "It's most often the working poor who find themselves in this situation, teetering on the border between the possessed and the dispossessed," says Kim Hopper, a researcher on homelessness for the Nathan S. Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research, based in New York. The number of "mobile homeless" as they are often called, tends to climb whenever the cost of housing outpaces wages, Dr. Hopper says. Last year was the first year on record, according to an annual study conducted by the National Low Income Housing Coalition, that a full-time worker at minimum wage could not afford a one-bedroom apartment anywhere in the country at average market rates. Experts say there are 2.1 million to 3.5 million homeless people nationally. Michele Wakin, who wrote her doctoral dissertation about people living in their vehicles in California and who is now a professor of sociology at Bridgewater State College, Massachusetts, says that the vigilance required to live in a car is one reason there tended to be fewer people who are drug addicted or mentally disabled living in their cars compared with those living on street grates. "Keeping the car in working order with the license, registration up-to-date, figuring out an address where offices can send things and all the while trying to stay off the radar of police and neighbors becomes like a full-time job. Though the average duration of homelessness is 4 months, it tends to be shorter for the mobile homeless, experts say.

Fast food companies are experimenting with call center technology in order to increase speed and sales volume, according to the Matt Richtel writing on page 1 of today's The New York Times. Companies like McDonald's are testing technology that connects customers pulling up to a drive-through menu with remote call-center employees using Internet calling technology (<http://money.cnn.com/2006/04/11/technology/mcdonalds/index.htm>). The centers not only allow fast-food chains to cut labor costs but to focus more on customer service by creating specially trained centralized staffs to take drive-through orders, The Times says. About 50 McDonald's franchises have been testing remote order-taking technology, but a spokesman for the company told the newspaper McDonald's had not decided whether to expand the use of call centers or not.

"In 2020, 4 years at a public university will cost about \$180,000; private tuition will set you back around \$260,000," reports "American Baby" (The New York Times, April 15, page B5).



### STATE LAUNCHES NEW LABOR MARKET INFORMATION WEB SITE

A new labor market information web site operated by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, **Hoosiers by the Numbers**, is now available for use by the general public. The site can be accessed at [www.hoosierdata.in.gov](http://www.hoosierdata.in.gov). The new site contains labor market data, statistics and trends compiled by the Department and the United States Department of Labor. The new web site is part of a major upgrade of the content and usability of the labor market information data the department regularly compiles on Indiana's workforce. It offers improved functionality in that users can more easily sort and rank data, can "grab" data in spreadsheet or text formats, and more easily make geographic comparisons. The data on the web site is used by economic development officials, researchers, policy-makers and other officials in a wide variety of economic development initiatives and community investment decisions.

### WAGE DEMAND INFORMATION

The Department of Workforce Development's Customer Self Service System (CS3) performs matches between job applicants looking for work and employers looking for new employees.

**Wage Demand** provides the applicants' desired wages. Each week, the pool of applicants who are registered in the CS3 system is examined. Applicants define their wage expectations for the work that they would like to obtain. An average wage demand and median wage demand are calculated for the selected geographical area. The data are available from the state level to the county level.

For other areas, check out our web site: <http://www.hoosierdata.in.gov>, under Employers >Income & Wages >Wage Demand.

**As of 7/16/2006**

	Average Annual	Median Annual	Number of Applicants
<b>*WIA Planning Region 4</b>	<b>\$22,759</b>	<b>\$20,800</b>	<b>6,708</b>
<b>**EGR 4</b>	<b>\$21,800</b>	<b>\$20,800</b>	<b>13,857</b>

\*WIA Planning Region 4 includes Benton, Carroll, Clinton, Fountain, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Warren and White counties

\*\*Economic Growth Region (EGR) 4 includes Benton, Carroll, Cass, Clinton, Fountain, Howard, Miami, Montgomery, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Warren and White counties.

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI-U)

### U.S. City Average

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Unadjusted percent change to Apr 2006 from:

	<u>Apr 05</u>	<u>Mar 06</u>
All Items	3.5%	0.9%
Food/Beverages	1.8%	-0.2%
Housing	3.8%	0.2%
Apparel	-0.2%	1.1%
Transportation	6.3%	3.8%
Medical Care	4.1%	0.3%
Recreation	1.7%	0.5%
Education/Communication	2.6%	0.2%
Other Goods/Services	2.7%	0.0%



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**WORKFORCE**  
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### Serving...

Economic Growth Region 4: Benton, Carroll, Cass,  
Clinton, Fountain, Howard, Miami, Montgomery,  
Tippecanoe, Tipton, Warren and White counties

## APPLICANT POOL As of 7/16/2006

Job Title	Number of Applicants Economic Growth Region 4
Assemblers	6,233
Production Laborers	4,670
Forklift/Industrial Truck Operators	2,323
All Other Machine Operators	2,506
Production Helpers	1,932
All Other Hand Workers	1,773
General Office Clerks	1,525
Hand Packers & Packagers	1,545
Cashiers, General	1,349
Production Inspectors, Testers, Graders	1,299
Receptionists/Information Clerks	1,216
All Other Precision Assemblers	1,300
Shipping and Receiving Clerks	1,066
1 <sup>st</sup> Line Supv: Production	1,149
Machine Assemblers	1,113
Administrative Assistants	952

\*The Department of Workforce Development's Customer Self Service System (CS3) performs matches between job applicants looking for work and employers looking for applicants to hire. **Applicant Pool** provides a numerical listing of the top jobs being sought by job applicants.



### R&A Website

<http://www.hoosierdata.in.gov>

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Workforce...

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